(b) if so, the details of the same;

(c) the actions taken, if any, for tracking the lost instruments, including filing of complaint about the same with the police;

(d) whether some of these lost DDs are detected to have been put into circulation in banking channel by forging signature etc. of the SBI officials; and

(e) if so, the details thereof indicating actions taken against issues and recipients of these forged DDs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that they have no record to show loss of a large number of bank Demand Draft (DD) forms and cheques dispatched in 1979 by Security Forms Office (SFO), Nasik Road (Maharashtra) to branches of SBI in Bihar.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Percolation of subsidy benefits to BPL population

546. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the targeted below-poverty line (BPL) population is getting full benefits of the huge subsidies or the position remains static as stated by our former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi Ji that only 15 paise of every rupee spent reaches the needy;

(b) whether new strategies which have been adopted to ensure that BPL groups, small and marginal farmers, or similarly placed deprived sections of the society fully get the intended benefits of the financial subsidies being provided; and

(c) what outlay of funds for subsidies was provided in 2006-07 from Central budgetary allocations and was this full utilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) The food subsidies are largely designed to be targeted to people below the poverty line (BPL), the other two subsidies, namely fertilizer and petroleum, particularly the LPG are available to all users/consumers. A study by Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of the Planning Commission regarding Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) which covered 18 States reveals that though the offtake per household has shown improvement under TPDS, yet only about 57 per cent of the BPL households are covered by it. Further the report finds that only about 42 per cent of the subsidized grains issued by the Central Pool reaches the target group. As per the Union Budget, in 2006-07, as against a budgeted provision of Rs. 46,213 crore on all subsidies, the actual expenditure was Rs. 57, 125 crore.

Effects of hardening of the rupee

547. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre has begun receiving communications from the States complaining about the hardening of the rupee eating into jobs in their regions;